

Message Text

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15

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-11 RSC-01

OMB-01 TAR-02 SPC-03 AGR-20 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 OIC-04 SIL-01 STR-08

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-02 ABF-01 L-03 SS-20 NSC-10 SAM-01

SCI-06 AEC-11 FAA-00 DRC-01 /232 W

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R 070800Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3833

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA UNN

UNCLAS GENEVA 750

MONTREAL FOR ICAO

PARIS FOR NESCO

ROME FOR FODAG

VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG

SUBJECT: ELEVENTH CONSULTATION GENEVA GROUP - FEB 5-6, 1974

1. SUMMARY: U.S. CHAIRED OPENING (AM) SESSION ELEVENTH
CONSULTATION LEVEL FEB 5. GROUP REVIEWED AND DISCUSSED
SUB-GROUP REPORTS CONCERNING FAO, IAEA, ICAO, ILO,
UNCTAD, UNIDO, USESCO AND UPU. FOR LATER
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DISCUSSION, UK RAISED ISSUE OF FUTURE CHAIRMANSHIP.

END SUMMARY.

2. 11TH CONSULTATION MEETING OF THE GENEVA GROUP (GG)
CONVENED FEB 5, 1974. U.S. (DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MOREY) CHAIRED MORNING SESSION. GROUP REVIEWED AND
DISCUSSED ITEM I (REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT GROUP ACTIVITIES
SINCE MARCH 1973 AND FUTURE PROBLEMS AND OBJECTIVES) AS
FOLLOWS:

A) FAO. BOTH ITALY AND JAPAN NOTED LARGE INCREASE FAO
BUDGET 1974/75 WITH FORMER CALLING ATTENTION TO FACT MAJORITY
INCREASE AROSE FROM NON-PROGRAM MATTERS. GERMANY NOTED
INFLUENCE PERSONS FROM GG MEMBER COUNTRIES FAO
PROGRAM AND FINANCE COMMITTEES. SUGGESTED OTHER GROUPS
REPORT SIMILAR ASSIGNMENTS IN FUTURE REPORTS. FRG ALSO
SUPPORTED SEMI-FULL BUDGETING FAO AND ROME GG COMMENTS
ON OVERHEAD COSTS. SWEDEN EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE
OF ALL GROUPS FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE WORK THEIR
AGENCIES. HOW IS IT ORGANIZED? IS IT EFFECTIVE? HOW IS IT
INFLUENCED BY GOVERNING BODIES? JAPAN JOINED ITALY IN
CRITICIZING FAO PROCEDURES LEADING
TO 1974/75 BUDGET ADOPTION. THE U.S. EXPLAINED CERTAIN EVENTS
LEADING TO HIGH BUDGETARY INCREASE AND UK CITED GG SUCCESS IN
PRESSING FOR A BUDGETARY RECALCULATION REFLECTING THE LIRA-DOLLAR
EXCHANGE RATE APPLICABLE AT TIME CONFERENCE DECISION.
CONSIDERABLE SAVINGS TO MEMBERS RESULTED THEREFROM.
NETHERLANDS ASKED IF FAO FOLLOWED FULL BUDGETING
PRINCIPLE AND WAS ASSURED IT DID NOT. THE 1974/75 BUDGET
REFLECTED SEMI-FULL BUDGETING.

B) IAEA. RECOGNIZING IT COULD NOT BE DONE ALL
AGENCIES AUSTRALIA PRAISED BREAK OUT OF MANDATORY AND
PROGRAM INCREASES IN IAEA. THE DELEGATION EXPRESSED CONCERN
OVER THE REGULAR BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR SAFEGUARDS
AND WHAT HE THOUGHT WOULD BE AN "UP HILL" FIGHT TO CURB
LEVEL OF IAEA VOLUNTARY FUND. THE UK NOTED THAT BY
AGREEMENT THE SAFEGUARDS ALLOCATION COULD BE REVIEWED
"AFTER 1975" AND AGENCY BOARD OF GOVERNORS WOULD SHORTLY
REVIEW STUDY CONCERNING VOLUNTARY FUND. SUCH STUDY, IT
WAS FELT, WOULD RECOMMEND CONTINUANCE OF FUND WITH
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EARLY, AND SUBSEQUENT PERIODIC, INCREASES.

C) ICAO. JAPAN CRITICIZED THE INCLUSION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
ACTIVITY IN ICAO'S BUDGET. THOUGHT LDC'S COULD UNITE ON
SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN 1974. GERMANY ASKED WHY FIRST
YEAR ICAO TRIENNIAL BUDGET SHOWED SUCH LARGE INCREASE. JAPAN
RELATED THIS TO NEW HEADQUARTERS ACCOMMODATION. U.S. USED
ICAO ITEM TO RAISE VIEW TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITY

SHOULD BE SOLELY THROUGH VOLUNTARY FUNDS. FRANCE, UK, AND JAPAN SUPPORTED THIS VIEW. SWEDEN DISAGREED TO SOME EXTENT. IT FELT AGENCIES WITH T.A. ACTIVITY IN REGULAR BUDGETS (WHO AND OTHERS) SHOULD NOT CHANGE. LOOK AT EACH INDIVIDUALLY.

D) ILO. GERMANY EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR TRIPARTITE WORKING PARTY. (AUSTRALIA, FRANCE, U.S.) ON FINANCING OF THE BUDGET. ASKED GROUP GIVE ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE GG MEMBERS THEREON. U.S. SUPPORTED THIS. BOTH MEMBERS AGREED ILO ACTION RE CURRENCY FLUCTUATION SHOULD AWAIT OUTCOME UN CONSIDERATION THIS SUBJECT. REGARDING THE ILO IN PARTICULAR U.S. NOTED THAT ILO STOOD TO BENEFIT FROM RECENT CHANGES IN DOLLAR-SWISS FRANC EXCHANGE RATE. THIS WOULD BE RAISED APPROPRIATELY WITH THE AGENCY.

E) UNCTAD (AND UNIDO). THE DISCUSSION ON UNCTAD WAS EXTENSIVE AND TENDED TO REVOLVE AROUND WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE A GG TO FOLLOW ITS ACTIVITY. THIS LED TO A QUESTION OF WHETHER UNIDO, ALSO FUNDED THROUGH THE UN BUDGET, WARRANTED SEPARATE GG CONSIDERATION. MOST OF DEBATE CONCERNING UNCTAD WAS BETWEEN COUNTRIES FAVORING A GG (FRANCE, ITALY, BELGIUM, AND GERMANY) AND SWEDEN, CANADA, UK WHICH FELT GROUP B COULD ADEQUATELY HANDLE GG MEMBER INTERESTS. U.S. PREPARED SUPPORT UNCTAD AND UNIDO GG'S IF DESIRED BY MAJORITY. MEMBERS SUPPORTING A GG FOR UNCTAD TENDED FEEL GG HAD GREATER VOCATION FOR INCREASED EFFICIENCY-IMPROVED MANAGEMENT. WHEN DEBATE REVEALED STRONG FEELINGS ON OPPOSITE VIEWPOINTS EXPRESSED, CHAIR ASKED IF CONSENSUS COULD BE REACHED ON UNCTAD GG (AND UNIDO) CONTINUING TO MEET THROUGHOUT 1974. THEIR ROLES COULD THEN BE RE-EXAMINED BY 12TH CONSULTATION LEVEL. ITALY AGREED THIS COMPROMISE POSITION BUT NOTED BOTH UNCTAD AND UNIDO WERE FUNDED BY SECTORS ON UN BUDGET. A FEELING UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT UNIDO WAS STRIVING FOR AUTONOMY WAS INDICATED. U.S. NOTED OPPOSITION TO AUTONOMY FOR UNIDO AND CALLED ATTENTION TO ACABQ AND UNGA CONSIDERATION OF THIS MATTER IN REMAINDER 1974. THROUGHOUT DISCUSSION UNCTAD AND UNIDO MOST MEMBERS SEEMED RECOGNIZE MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATIVE-BUDGETARY NATURE MORE EASILY HANDLE
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